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credited, "he has confuted his opponent, who is conscious of defeat." However, he should recollect, this insolent style carries no conviction; none but the ignorant give credit to a man for his pompous boasts, and attempts to bespatter his opponent, and above all, to praise himself. Abuse and puffing are no arguments. Readers of discernment will judge for themselves, independently of the assertions of controversialists on both sides. Let the judicious decide between us.

In the style of a political bravo, he dares to prove the inconsistency of granting a veto to the crown on the nomination of Catholic Bishops, with the principles of freedom. We are under no ob-

ligation to answer the challenge of this mighty boaster, nor will we be drawn into a protracted controversy with him. For the sake of our readers, however, it may not be stepping out of the way to say, that a right of rejection vested in commissioners appointed, and removable by the crown, would give a weight of influence to the already overwhelming power of the crown, by operating on the hopes and fears of the Catholic priesthood, so as would most essentially contribute to the injury of the cause of liberty. A power to frustrate translations, or elevations to the mitre, would be a mighty engine in the hand of the minister.

K.

CORRESPONDENCE ON SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH THE RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

To the Proprietors of the *Belfast Magazine*.

"Hapless nation! hapless land!
Heap of uncementing sand!
Crumbled by a foreign weight,
And by worse domestic hate."

CONCEIVING that an account of the transactions of the 12th of July in the various parts of this country, may be interesting to some of your readers, I am induced to send you the following accurate report of the proceedings and processions of Orangemen in Lisburn, a town which exhibits in a strong point of view the many evils resulting from the ascendancy of the intolerant and cherished Orange faction. Previously to the 12th, many were the boastings of the pompous display of Orangeism which was expected to take place, as the Orangemen from a considerable circuit of country had intended to march to Belfast, the scene of their famous exploits last year, in killing two and wounding several unoffending individuals. Happily, however, some considerations, among which it may be supposed the fear of the consequences of their insulting parade in that town being mentioned in Parliament, and the speeches of the Duke of Sussex and Sir Henry Parnell, on presenting the Anti-Orange petitions, had a share in moderating their vehemence, and in promoting the prudent resolution to confine their insulting show to the districts in which their strength principally lay.

At length the great, the important day arrived, and at four o'clock in the morn-

ing the peaceable inhabitants were aroused by the firing of guns, to announce the return of the anniversary. About 12 o'clock the procession, which was considerably smaller than usual, proceeded to Derriaghy church, accompanied by the Lisburn yeomanry band, and headed by a man* whose mental faculties have been impaired by drunkenness and paralysis, but who certainly showed on this occasion as much wisdom as any person in the procession. Never did a child, in whose mind rational ideas had remained dormant, when dressed for exhibition at a dancing school, or on being presented with a tawdriily dressed doll, experience more delight than many in the proces-

* This man, who has annoyed the town and neighbourhood of Lisburn for some time past, under the name of Orange Billy, and who is in reality more knave than fool, has been permitted to go about decorated with orange and purple ribbons, and armed with a sword and two bayonets, to the terror and evident danger of many persons. Yet this man experiences the liberality of many who are as cold in reality as the charity of some is ironically represented to be. But the spirit of Orangeism levels all distinctions between good and bad conduct, *provided the loyalty is unquestioned*. What is there so fascinating in Orangeism as to attract idiots to that standard? It certainly is a fact, that I have never seen an Orange procession unaccompanied by some of these poor creatures.

sion evinced at the display of their ribbons and their lilies. With the exception of two clergymen and some of their sons, no person having any pretensions to *gentility*, and few even to being *respectable* tradesmen, appeared in the procession. Indeed the number of Orange votaries would have been considerably smaller, if some females, neglecting the delicacy and decorum which should ever characterize their sex, had not joined the ranks.

I was much amused at the flags which were displayed. Many of the mottoes were extremely inapplicable, as Orangemen have no claim to the assumption of having tended to promote "national prosperity." They may indeed exult in their mottoes of "glorious constitution" and "Protestant ascendancy" words which dazzle the imaginations, and inflame the passions of the ignorant multitude. A writer* whose sentiments, however erroneous in some respects, are always liberal and good on political questions, has made so very pertinent remarks on this subject, that I shall transcribe a short extract from her recent publication.

"No constitution can be more glorious than that which, free from exclusions, by equal laws, equal protection, and equal privileges, engages every member of the community in the interests, defence, and preservation of the whole. Ascendancy is a relative term; it is an assumption of one part of the population at the immediate expense of the interests, happiness, and undisputed rights of the rest: not a superabundance of power and authority *added to the one scale*, but a portion of protection and security *taken from the other*. Where ascendancy is claimed by one tribe or cast over others, subsisting under the same government, there is little chance of internal union, or of safety to either party. For duties and rights are inseparable, and the voluntary dereliction of the first necessarily implies an abandonment of the second. The surest pledge, therefore, which can be given of the loyalty of the excluded, is their constant and unremitting efforts to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the government under which they live."

On the return of the procession, which in truth was neither grand nor imposing, a passenger in the mail coach was per-

ceived with a small part of a green branch in his hand. A clerical magistrate, who was probably not more cool from having preached a sermon to the Orangemen a few hours previously,† did not think it beneath his *dignity*, to tell the man that if he continued to keep up the green, he would probably be beaten before he left the town; thus rousing the passions of the bystanders, one of whom, jumped on the wheel of the coach to attack the passenger, while the magistrate, so far as I can find, never attempted to repress the *illegal attack* on the passenger.‡

† An Orange manifesto has been published, dated July 14th in which the Rev. Phil. Johnson, the "WORTHY GRAND CHAPLIN" of the County Antrim, is not only thanked for his sermon "impressively delivered to them" on the 12th, but for his "uniform support of the British constitution." Then calling in the assistance of the spirit of *bathos* to finish this elegant production, Mr. Johnson is thanked "for his judicious and irrefragable defence of the institution" in general, and the Orangemen of Derriagh, from the accusations of Francis Plowden in particular. Without entering into the question of Plowden versus Johnson, or without shewing the futility of the "Plain Statement of Facts" which deals largely in abuse, and is sparing in argument, I shall beg the Loyal Orange Association, not to pursue their usual plan of proclaiming a victory before it is gained, or of pronouncing a work *irrefragable*, before its strength is proved. I shall also beg leave to recommend the *ci-devant Grand Secretary*, now lowered simply to secretary, to study his dictionary before he next issues his fulminations. The editor of the Orange Gazette, the News Letter, and the Pedagogue may settle the point between them, whether the orthographical mistake of *Chaplin* for *chaplain*, be owing to an error of the press, or the blunder of the scribe.

‡ The pretext of the man shaking the branch at a woman, could not afford even a *legal sophistical quibble* for construing it into an assault. For the shaking of the hand, a rod, or any other instrument, can in no other way constitute an assault than as being indicative of an immediate intention to strike. A person rapidly passing on a coach could have no intention of striking a woman at a considerable distance on the side of the street.

* Lady Morgan, late Sidney Owenson. See O'Donnell, a national tale; Vol. 1st, pages 210 and 211.

Had the magistrate acted with strict impartiality he would, instead of endeavouring to intimidate the man who had the green, have cautioned the Orangemen against committing the *illegal* act of jumping on the coach to tear down a green branch, the property of a passenger, at the same time that they were *illegally* wearing the colours and badges of a party.

The passenger whether from a want of firmness in maintaining his right, or from having a bias to the Orange party, abandoned his branch, and had the meanness to make an apology. The guard of the coach, feeling the insult offered by the intolerant faction, declared that no man's pardon should have been asked for a circumstance which was so inoffensive. For this and some similar declarations, a complaint was written to the General Post Office, and the guard has since been removed to another part of the road. Are the revengeful and malignant feelings of these Orange inquisitors now satisfied, or will their success embolden them to seek still farther to trample on their adversaries? But happily for this country the legislature has not yet become so submissive to the turbulent passions of party-men, as to prohibit the wearing of green, which is certainly not more illegal than the wearing of Orange. Magistrates should show their attachment to government by administering the laws faithfully against the Orangemen for parading in an illegal manner, and thus causing the first tendency to riot, instead of assuming a dogmatical air, and dictating in their imagined self-importance laws which have never been enacted by parliament.

The evening of the 12th was closed by a public subscription dinner of Orange gentlemen and their friends, and by the drunkenness and consequent friendly altercations among the lower classes of Orangemen. It was shocking to see even children drunk in the streets; one child about six years of age has since died in consequence of the immoderate quantity of spirituous liquor given to him in one of the lodges.

ANTI-ORANGE.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE NEWRY TELEGRAPH.

THIS is an *interesting* subject; so at least we are assured by the Editor. This passive goodnatured man, kindly suffers himself to be *discussed* by the Magazine writers, to vary the sameness of their melancholy

speculations, and help forward into notice a dull Magazine, that requires, he thinks, the seasoning of a little "personality" to recommend it to the public! This strangely charitable man is therefore a little inconsistent, when he complains of being introduced into a work, which he contributes to render so amusing; nor should he be surprised, if the friends of the Magazine are anxious to enrich this work, by occasional observations on the Telegraph, while it continues to preserve that *interesting* character, of which its Editor is so conscious, and so justly proud.

Yet this journalist is certainly under some wrong impressions. He seems indeed to possess a strange facility of misunderstanding, and to be reinforced by an additional gift of fluency, when he has some false positions to build upon. Thus, most bitterly does he complain, in text and margin of "personal abuse," from the Magazine writers. This charge of the Telegraph against the Belfast Magazine, forms in the curious phraseology of the Newry journalist, "the Alpha and Omega of his cogitations!" With this charge he begins and ends his lengthened dissertations on bank notes and gold: in each division and subdivision of all his paragraphs, this accusation occurs in some shape or other, against the devoted Magazine. If his irritation be not *affected*, I am quite at a loss to conceive its motive; or, how this Editor can imagine it is *himself*, and not the Newry Telegraph that is made the subject of animadversion. From reading him, one would think the private character of this gentleman had been rudely assailed, or at least, that some public acts of his had been remarked upon or misrepresented to the world. Yet, of *this* nothing that I can call to mind has appeared in the Magazine. Nothing occurs to me of personal abuse either in the Retrospect, which sometimes notices incidentally the Newry Telegraph; or in communications from correspondents who may have more leisure to consider so very subordinate a grievance as this journal. Where is the *anonymous* "abuse" half so gross as the writer *himself* has discharged upon the Belfast Magazine, in his lengthened article of the present month? Where are those pretended personalities, so bitterly complained of? Or, where is the *HONEST MAN* that shrinks from an inquiry into his character?

It were, indeed, a sad waste of time even for the writer of these remarks, to